

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The applicant acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the office action dated March 30, 2007. Claims 1-30 were pending. Claims 8 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. Claim 8 has been cancelled. Claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 9 instead of claim 10 as originally filed. As such, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7, 13, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,815,286 to Matsuba. Claims 22, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuba. Claims 9, 11, 12, 18-21, and 27-30 have been indicated to be allowable. Claims 14, 17, 23, and 26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and would be allowable if written in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-8, 14, 16, 17, 23, 25, and 26 have been cancelled. Claim 10 has been amended to properly depend from claim 9. Claim 13 has been amended to include the elements of claim 14, which the examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and included all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims. Claim 15 has been amended to include the elements of claim 17, which the examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 22 has been amended to include the elements of claim 23, which the examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 24 has been amended to include the elements of claim 26, which the examiner indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Thus, claims 13, 15, 22, and 24 are the equivalent of claims 14, 17, 23, and 26, respectively, rewritten in independent form and include all of the limitations of the base claim and all intervening claims and should therefore be in condition for allowance.

Application No.: 10/619,385  
Amendment/Response dated May 24, 2007  
Response to Office action dated March 29, 2007

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/24816.

Respectfully submitted,



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